

CPCI Grant Fund Summary Presentation  
CCPTA Meeting, December 9, 2019  
Emily Vincent, Chair, CPCI Committee

The great news is that applications have increased, so our schools and PTAs are aware of the fund and excited to share their project or event proposals with us for funding. Donations have been stable, which means we have an exciting opportunity for even more impact in the future.

The CPCI grant fund aligns directly with the PTA mission to advocate for the well-being and education of our students, taking a broad focus beyond individual school communities and embracing the need for a countywide effort to address inequities in our schools.

This countywide focus comes at a time of change for APS, with many PTAs and families unsure about where their students might end up. Here's the best part. Donations to the CPCI grant fund will ensure that no matter which APS school students attend, their school community will be equitably supported. This could reduce the stress of change!

Let me provide a snapshot of this funding period and how it fits into the 4.5 years since the fund started.

- All 16 of the schools/programs that have applied for grants over this time period have received at least one grant.
- In the first four years, 46 applications were received for a total of \$78,114; 29 of those were funded for a total of \$35,353, about a 45% funding rate of the total \$ requested.
- In the fall 2019 funding period, 20 applications were received for a total of \$38,412; 9 of those were funded for a total of \$12,185. \$30 remains in the fund.
- This brings us to 38 out of 66 applications funded for a total of \$47,548 out of \$116,526 requested; about a 41% funding rate of the total \$ requested.
- Our total \$ requested is quickly outpacing the funding we have available.

The most common funding requests are for literacy initiatives or book purchases, field trip support, flexible seating and sensory tools, and outdoor space initiatives. The CCPTA will be working with APS on addressing systemic inequities, such as those around flexible seating, and we will continue to advocate around these disparities both within and among our schools.

Related to our donors, I'd like to recognize that nine schools have donated to the grant fund each year for the last three years or more. The largest individual donation has been \$3500; \$1000 is the most common donation. Most impressively to me, five schools have been both donors to and recipients of the grant fund, every single one of which is a Title I school.

Over \$2 million was spent by PTAs in the 2017-2018 school year. If PTAs donated just 1% of their spending budget to the grant fund, we would have around \$20,000 per year to distribute to PTAs equitably. Yearly giving is currently closer to \$12,000, which is about 0.6%. So, for example, if a PTA budget is around \$100,000, they would donate \$1000.

So where do we go from here? The CPCI Committee has some suggestions:

- Change the name of the grant fund to better reflect its purpose. We're open to suggestions!
- Improve donation levels, including being willing to make recommendations based on a \$ amount or % of spending budget.
- Increase focus on gathering impact reporting so we can show our donors and community how our efforts are serving our students.
- Encourage individual PTA resolutions stating a commitment to equity in our schools by sharing financial resources with the CCPTA grant fund.
- Establish tiered levels of giving and special acknowledgements for PTAs that donate each year and for schools who both donate to and qualify to receive grant funding.

How do we accomplish these goals? We need your help. Specifically:

- CCPTA Reps should please share this information with your school communities and encourage your PTAs to participate.
- We'd love some additional volunteers with experience in grant fund management to help us improve our impact and outreach.